

Killer in Pamela Smart case up for parole

◆**Twenty-five years:**
A New Hampshire judge
approved Bill Flynn's work
release last year.

By MARK HAYWARD
New Hampshire Union Leader

Bill Flynn, the 15-year-old who killed the husband of lover Pamela Smart 25 years ago, goes before the Parole Board on Thursday with a strong possibility he could be paroled.

Flynn's record in the Maine prison system, where he has served most of his time, has been free of disciplinary infractions since 1997, according to New Hampshire corrections officials.

A New Hampshire judge approved Flynn's work release last year.

And a brother of Gregory Smart, whom Flynn shot in the head in his Derry condominium on May 1, 1990, told a newspaper that Flynn got his punishment and can



Billy Flynn, convicted of killing Gregory Smart in 1990, will go before the parole board on Thursday.

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now perhaps make something of his life.

"I think he did his time. He was at a young age. Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying he shouldn't have been punished, but I want to put this

behind me and I'm sure he wants to put it behind him," Rick J. Smart, 57, of Nashua, told the Boston Herald in an article that ran Monday.

Smart quickly added that he wants Pamela Smart,

who was convicted of first-degree murder conspiracy, to never get out of prison.

Flynn's case is slated to be heard by three members of the Adult Parole Board at 9 a.m. Thursday, said Andrea Goldberg, executive assistant to the board. Board members Donna Sytek, Jeffrey Brown and Leslie Mendenhall are scheduled to hear the request.

He is 41, and if parole is approved he could be released on June 4.

Flynn is currently incarcerated at the Bolduc Correctional Facility in Warren, Maine, which is a minimum security prison. He is not expected to appear before the New Hampshire board in person, but will participate via a telephone link, said Jeff Lyons, a spokesman for the New Hampshire Corrections Department.

Scott Fish, a spokesman for the Maine prison system, said confidentiality rules prevent him from disclos-

ing whether Flynn actually participates in work release. Bolduc has no fence, but doors are locked.

"In order to be at a minimum security prison, they have to be — in brief — a model prisoner," Fish said.

In New Hampshire, parole hearings are public hearings, but the board decides whom it will hear from.

State prosecutors do not plan to speak at the hearing, said Susan Morrell, a senior assistant attorney general. But the Attorney General's victim-witness advocate is coordinating the appearance of some members of the Smart family, Morrell said.

She does not know if they will speak.

Flynn was 15 when he shot Smart at the behest of Pam Smart, who was his lover and the media director at Winnacunnet High School, where Flynn was a student. Flynn testified against Smart and was convicted of second-degree murder.

He was sentenced to 40 years to life, with 15 years suspended from his minimum sentence.

The crime — a school-boy seduction, murder and Pam Smart's testimony — became a media sensation and continues to draw interest, usually when Smart speaks to the media from her New York state prison.

In a recent statement available on pamelasmart.com, Smart's friend Eleanor Pam said Flynn perjured himself during Smart's trial, and the case needs a second look.

"If Bill Flynn and his gangster cohorts are allowed to live free, why is Pamela Smart's persecution eternal?" the statement reads.

Patrick Randall, who held a knife to Gregory Smart's throat, has been at the Calumet halfway in Manchester since last June, Lyons said. Randall's parole hearing is scheduled for April 9.

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